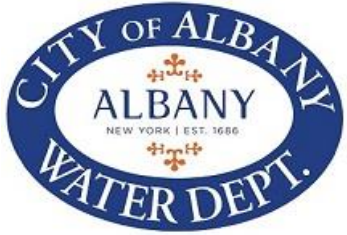


# ALBANY WATER BOARD PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

# 2022

Rate Hearing: Thursday January 27, 2022 6:00PM  
10 North Enterprise Drive Albany, NY

Albany Water Board provides clean drinking water and maintains the sewer system for the city of Albany.



## **We Focus on Water**

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

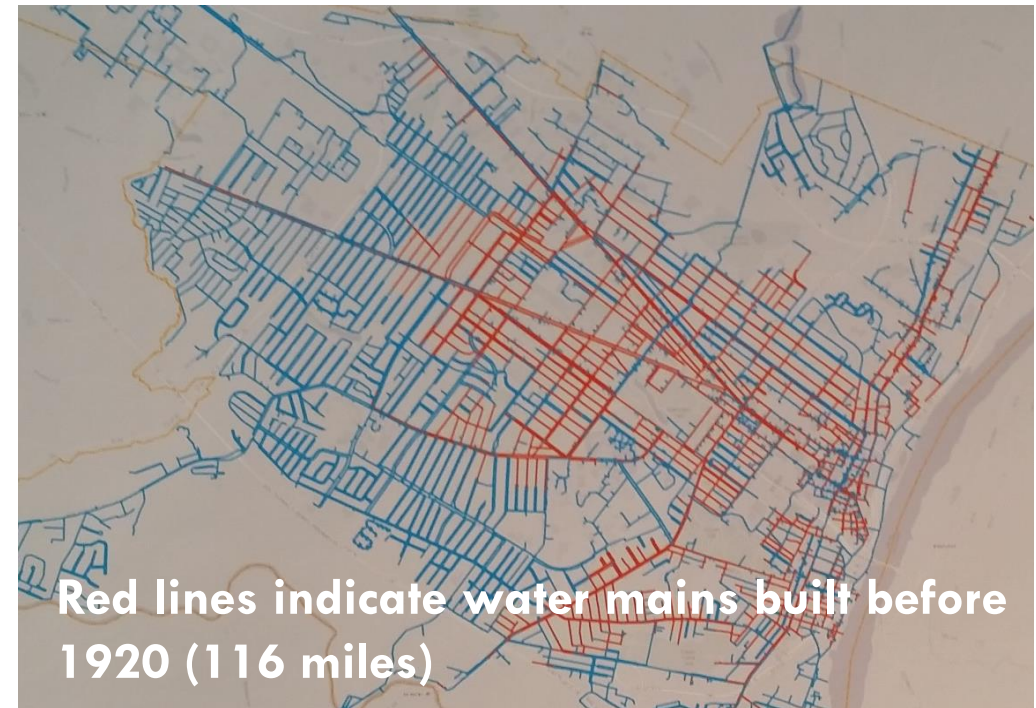
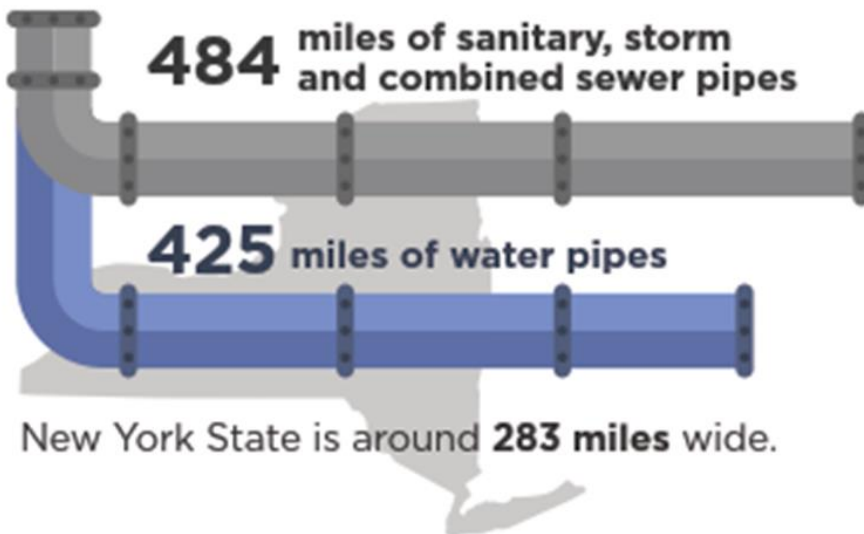
**Manage Water** - by maintaining and protecting our local reservoirs  
**Clean Water** - by treating it to make it safe to drink  
**Test Water** - to ensure it meets quality standards  
**Deliver Water** - by piping it directly to your home  
**Remove Water** - by safely carrying away wastewater and stormwater

All for less than a penny a gallon

# ALBANY'S WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

- ❑ Much of Albany's water & sewer infrastructure is over 100 years old.
- ❑ Repairs and upgrades are necessary to guarantee the delivery of clean water and the removal of wastewater & stormwater.
- ❑ Your water & sewer bill pays for these improvements as well as daily operation and maintenance.

## The Pipes We Maintain





# LONG TERM CONTROL PLAN (LTCP)

- ❑ Albany is served by a combined sewer system, which carries wastewater and stormwater.
  - ❑ During heavy rainfall, parts of the sewer system are overwhelmed, resulting in the release of untreated wastewater and stormwater into the Hudson River. This is called a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO), and harms water quality.
- ❑ Albany Pool Communities (Troy, Cohoes, Rensselaer, Green Island, Watervliet, and the Albany & Rensselaer Sewer Districts) established a 15-year LTCP to mitigate the impact of CSOs.
- ❑ When the LTCP is fully implemented, it will capture 85% of the annual CSO volume and treat it for bacteria and sewage-related floatable waste. **This will significantly improve the water quality of the Hudson River and its tributaries.**
- ❑ With an overall cost to the Albany Water Board (AWB) of \$60 million, the LTCP represents a significant portion of AWB's expenses. These costs are incorporated into the LTCP and were agreed to by the Albany Pool Communities and approved by NYSDEC.
- ❑ Albany's largest LTCP project is the Satellite Treatment Facility currently under construction in Lincoln Park.

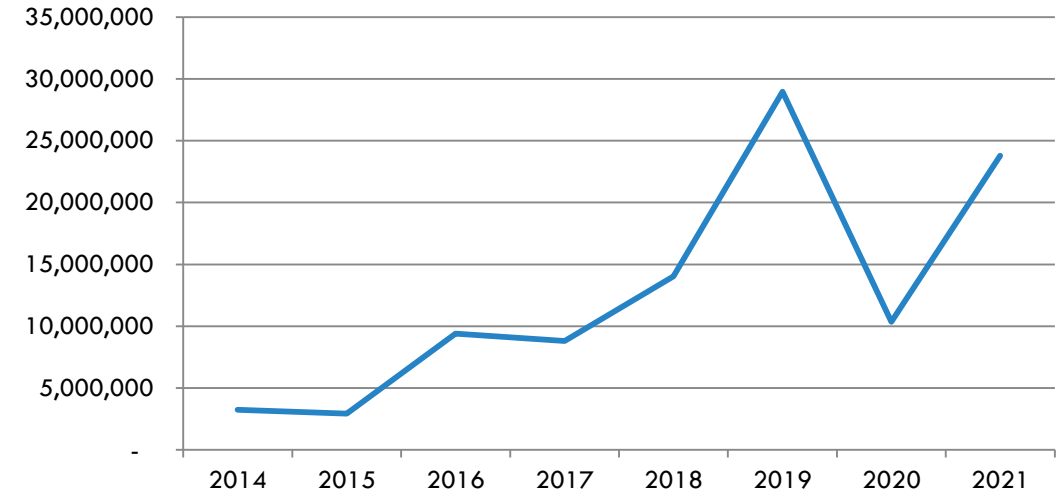


Drone Photo Hudson River

# CAPITAL PROJECTS

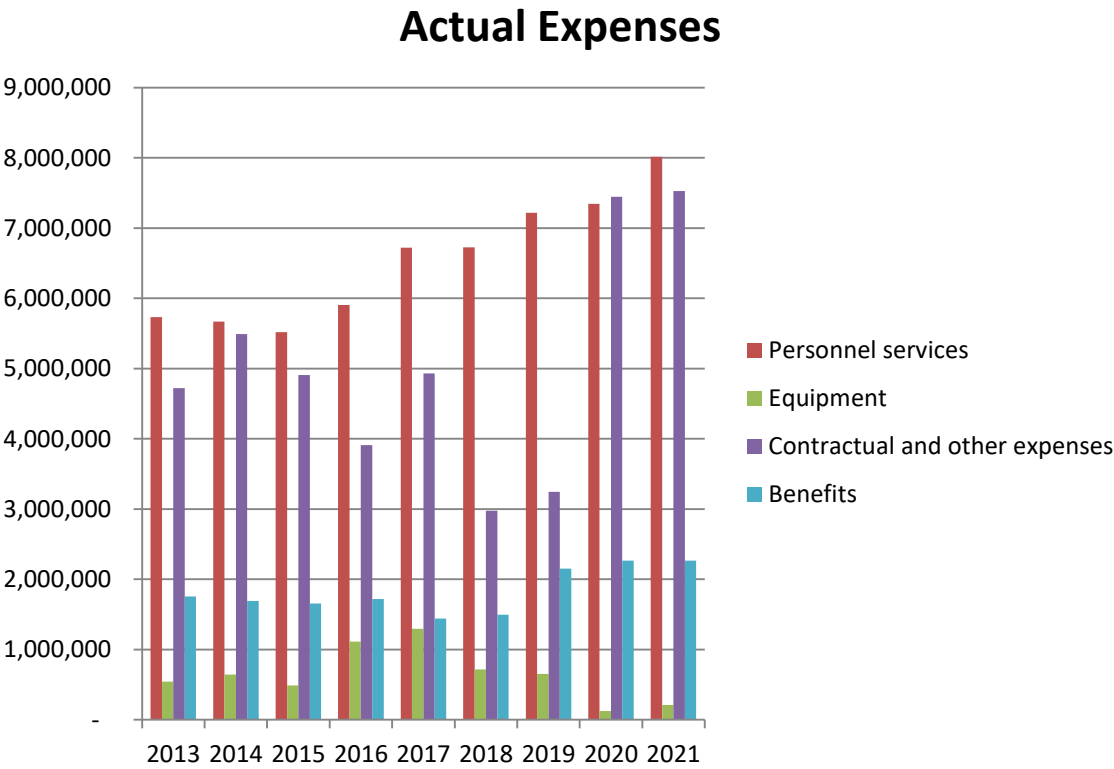
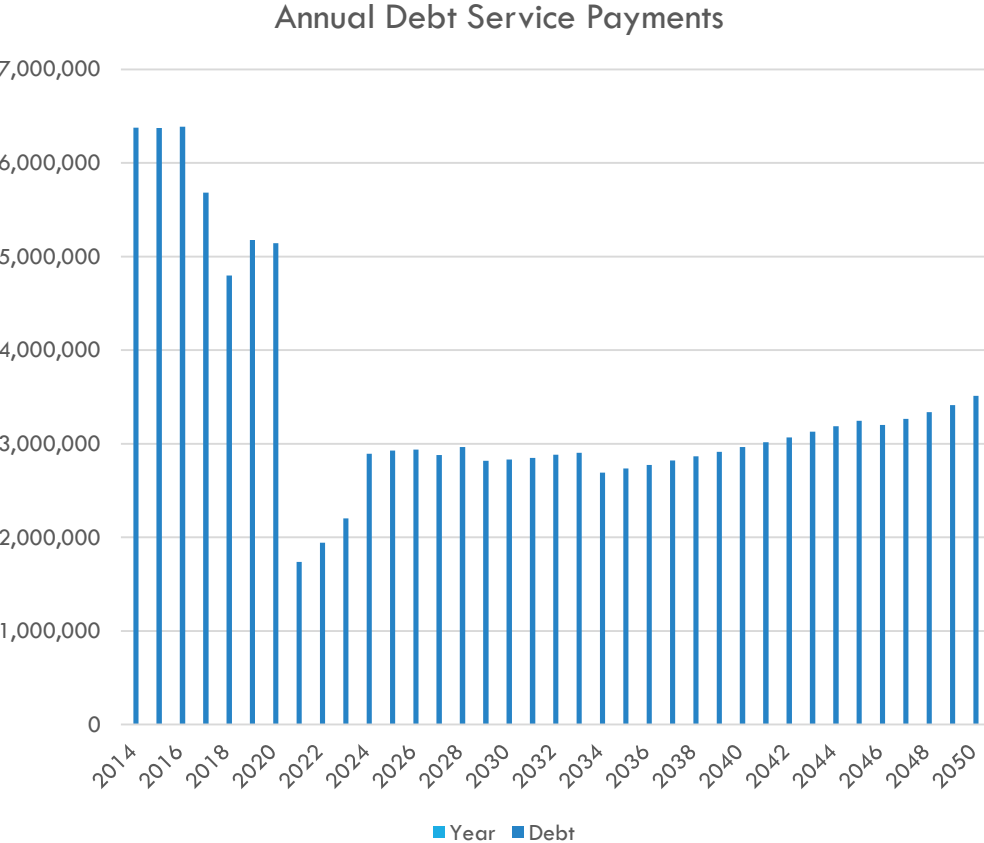
- ❑ Borrowed \$25 million for capital projects in 2021.
- ❑ Since 1994, we have invested over \$155 million in capital projects, over \$95 million since 2014.
- ❑ Received nearly \$40 million in grants since 2014.
- ❑ Our FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (2022-2026) identified \$115 million in projects to be funded through grants, long-term financing or ongoing funds.

Capital Expenditures



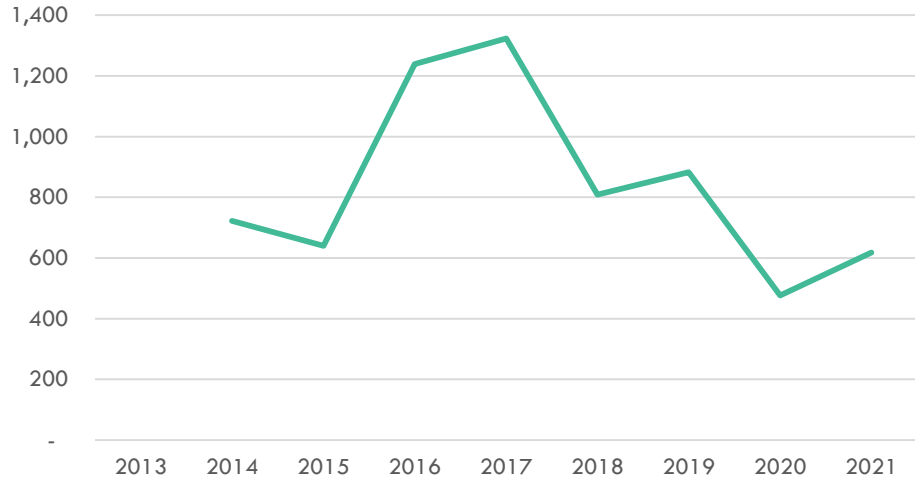
Drone photo of Beaver Creek Clean River Project site

# EXPENSE BUDGET, SPENDING, AND DEBT PAYMENTS

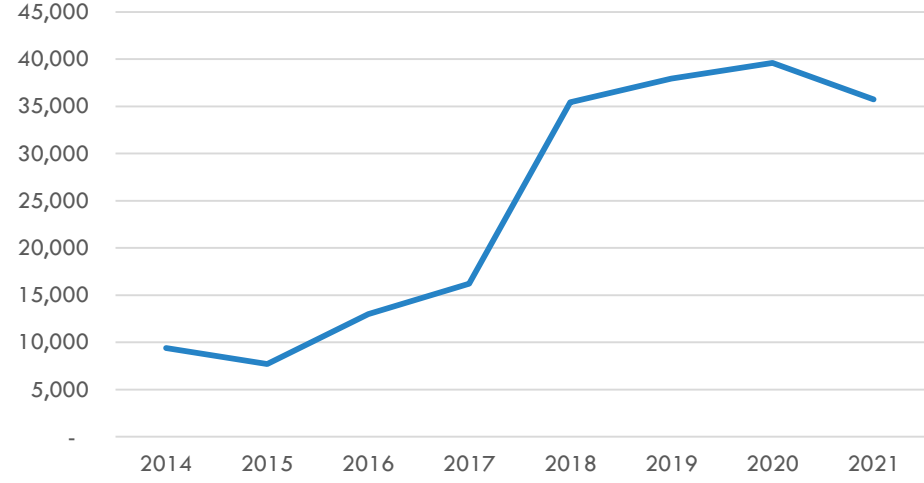


# OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE TRENDS

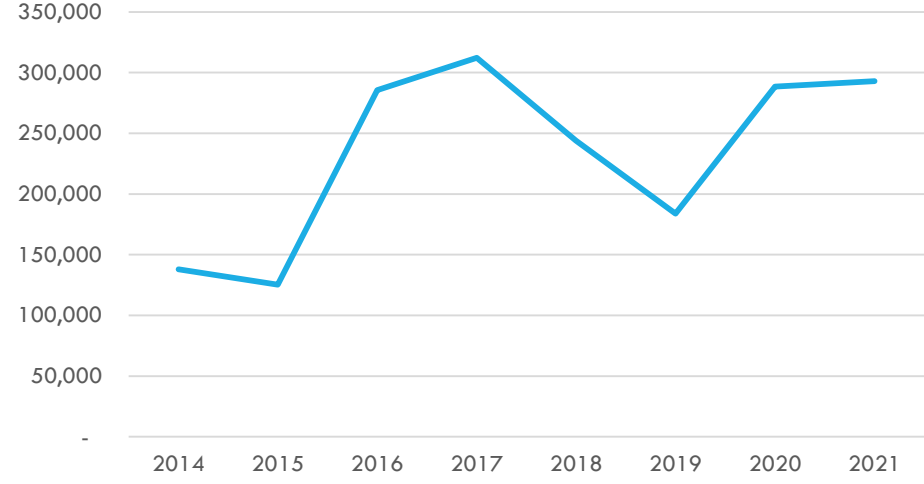
Blocks Tested



Sewer Pipeline Camera (ft)



Sewer Cleaning/PM (ft)





# FLOOD MITIGATION

- ❑ The Albany Water Board is committed to system wide infrastructure improvements to address areas that have been prone to flooding and back-ups.
- ❑ Upgrades to the sanitary, storm and combined sewer system have been focused on sewer separation and flood mitigation. The goals of these projects are to either separate the storm water flow from the combined sewer or to provide stormwater storage and retention.
- ❑ Over the past five years, we have increased these efforts throughout the city, using a combination of underground detention galleries, groundwater recharge, constructed wetlands and green infrastructure. (tree pits, bioretention)

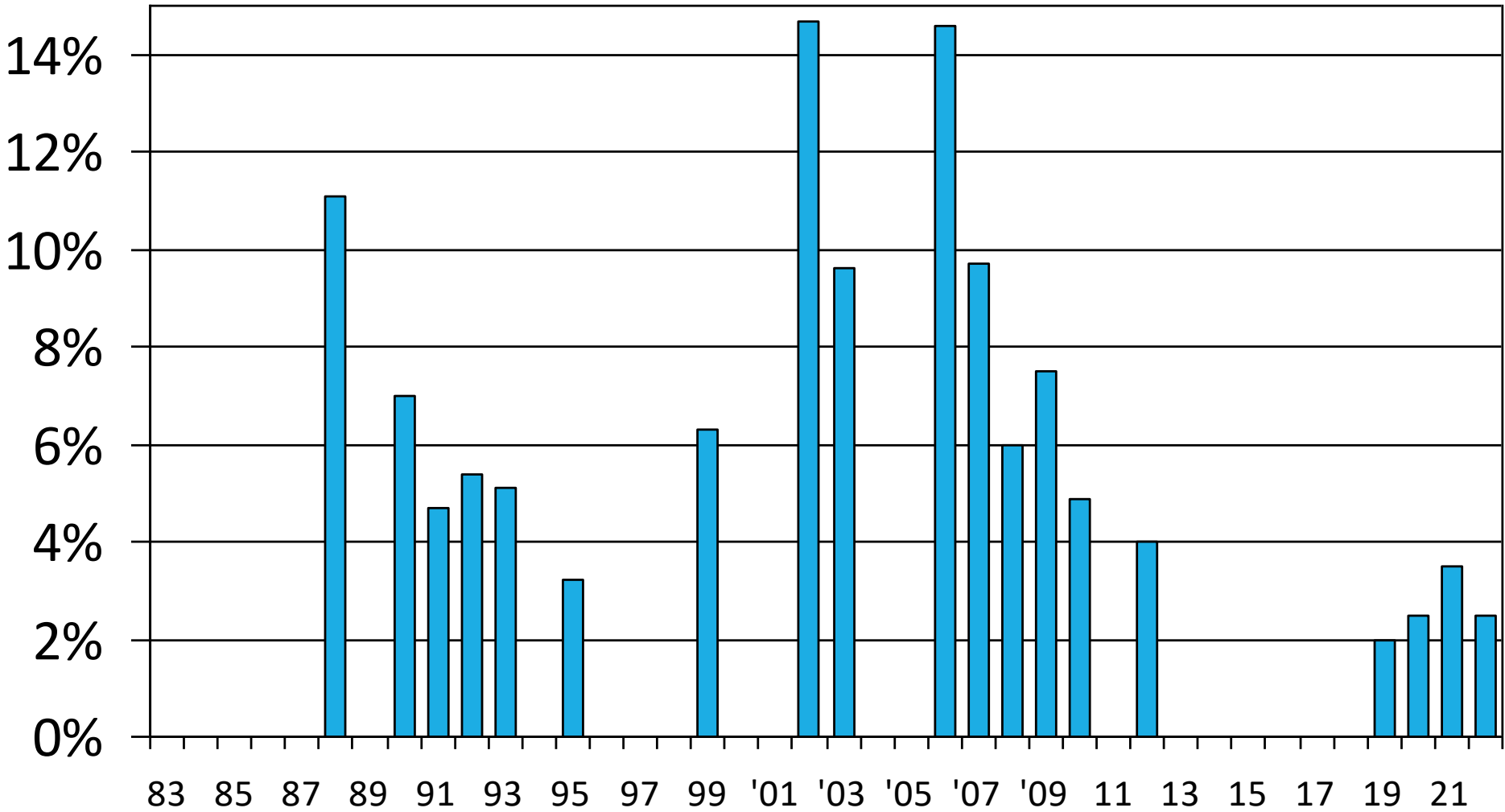


Ryckman Avenue Constructed Wetlands



# RATE INCREASES FOR AVERAGE USERS (RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL)

## PERCENTAGE RATE INCREASE EACH YEAR FROM 1983-2022



# PROPOSED 2.5% RATE INCREASE

- ❑ If approved by the Albany Water Board, the proposed 2.5% increase for water and sewer rates would take effect February 1, 2022.
- ❑ The change would increase the average residential bill by **\$14.20 per year**, and the minimum bill by \$7.67 per year. View the [Full Rate Schedule](#).

	2020	2021 (with 3.5% increase)	Impact (every 4 months)
<b>Minimum Bill (every 4 months)</b>	\$73.00	\$75.56	\$2.56
<b>Average Residential Bill (every 4 months)</b>	\$135.20	\$139.93	\$4.73

# WHY HAVE A RATE INCREASE?

The need to cover costs to operate, maintain, repair and upgrade the water system.

These costs are increasing because...

- ❑ Increased maintenance and upgrades are required to operate our aging water/sewer infrastructure.
- ❑ To control costs associated with the implementation of the Long Term Control Plan.
- ❑ More stringent water standards that require infrastructure upgrades and modifications to past treatment methods.
  - Including a replacement plan for [Lead Water Service Lines](#) .
- ❑ Unpredictability of the weather (i.e. flash floods, droughts, etc.)

To provide sufficient income to ensure debt coverage and adequate capital reserves.

- ❑ Need to ensure adequate cash flow to invest in the system.
  - Such investments are to ensure future rate stability.

Rates (per 100 cf)	2012 - 2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Residential	\$2.67	\$2.72	\$2.79	\$2.89	\$2.96
Large Users I	\$4.85	\$4.95	\$5.07	\$5.25	\$5.38
Large Users II	\$5.82	\$5.94	\$6.09	\$6.30	\$6.46
Vacant Property (per front ft., per year)	\$2.41	\$2.46	\$2.52	\$2.61	\$2.68



# PUBLIC HEARING

Rate Increase Public Hearing  
Thursday, January 27  
6:00 – 7:00 PM

10 North Enterprise Drive  
Albany, NY 12204



# QUESTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION

Albany Water Department

518-434-5300

[water@albanyny.gov](mailto:water@albanyny.gov)

[www.albanyny.gov/water](http://www.albanyny.gov/water)

